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THE BRAZOS VALLEY FLOOD.

The terrible flood which has devastated the Brazos Valley is one of those dreadful instances in which man's feeble strength is measured against the laws of nature, and in which humanity appears so frail and helpless. The pitiable condition of the sufferers in Texas should appeal to every person who is not affected by the sweep of the angry waters, and if a national appeal for aid is necessary there should be a prompt and liberal response.

The action of Governor Culbertson in calling upon Secretary of War Alger was wise and commendable. State authorities are frequently too sensitive about appealing for aid in handling matters which demand immediate and costly action. It requires precious time to put the governmental machinery of a State into action, as there is seldom no provision made for unexpected calls upon the public funds of a commonwealth.

It is unfortunate that an "emergency" fund is not provided in the regular appropriations of every State in the Union. There can be no doubt that such a fund would frequently save inexpressible sorrow and suffering, and, by reason of the great power of ready money, would undoubtedly prove a paying investment in the end. Especially should this course be adopted in the States which are annually visited by destructive floods and tornadoes.

Experience is supposed to teach even fools. Why cannot wise officials learn a lesson from the annual recurrence of natural phenomena reasonably as certain as winter and summer?

Judging from American speeches in England yesterday, the long talk of British-American alliance has been effected, and there is nothing Americans now admire more than the British flag. In the days when the principles of the Declaration of Independence were maintained in this country, it was "Te, ti, to, fun, I smell the blood of an Englishman," but now, when those principles are repudiated and ridiculed as "out of date," there is nothing so dear to the Northern Republican heart as an Englishman.—Alexandria Gazette.

Inasmuch as our esteemed contemporary would not have been sorry to see Uncle Sam whipped in the Spanish-American war this sneer at the cordial relations between England and the United States is not surprising. In the light of recent events, however, it is quite evident that this effort to rake up the embers of racial prejudice and hate which prevailed a hundred years ago will prove as futile as the effort of the old woman to brush back the tide with her broom.

From the alarming lack of vivid reports we infer that the collections for the Dewey house are what the market manipulators would term "only fair to middling." This is well. It requires a robust imagination to scrape up any reason for providing a home which the Admiral neither needs nor desires.

Hon. James John Corbett, of erstwhile fistie fame, seems to have acquired the John L. Sullivan "one more fight" idea.

The preliminary performance of the Columbia, which is to defend the American cup in the forthcoming international yacht race, will relieve any misapprehension that may have been felt by those who are anxious to keep the trophy on this side of the herring pond. Under unfavorable conditions she outfooted the old Defender, and displayed remarkable strength in those

points that were especially weak in the Iselin yacht. The outlook for a good race and one which will terminate to the satisfaction of the Americans, at least, is very bright. There is no reason why there should be a repetition of the Dunraven incident.

AS YOU LIKE IT.

ORLANDO—"As I remember, it was upon this fashion."

THE SEA BREEZE CLUB RECEIVES A NEW MEMBER.

On the membership roll of the Sea Breeze Sporting Club appears the name of a prominent official of this municipality.

To the uninitiated the information conveyed in the preceding paragraph will not seem fraught with any particular significance. When it is added, however, that the Sea Breeze Sporting Club is an organization made up of nice young colored men, most of whom are barbers and hotel waiters, who wear pink striped high collars and are given to gin and craps, and who meet nightly in their club house near Buckroe Beach for the purpose of separating one another from their money over the gaming table, then the statement should merit interest.

Recognizing the name as a familiar one, I questioned the Keeper of the Scrolls of the club regarding it. "Dat's the white member of de Sea Breezes, sah," said the Keeper of the Scrolls. "De seckatery brought him in and pposed him for membership on de Fole of July. We're mighty proud of our white member. He's a office hold-up in de court house at Newport News, he is. We didn't know it when Brother Smith interposed his name for to be voted on, but a white gent'n that come in heah yesterday done told us he is a mighty distinguished pussion-ager up in Newport News."

Now, as it matter of fact, this white member of the Sea Breezes is absolutely guiltless of any connection or association with the gin-swilling, policy-playing "cullud gent'lmen" of the Sea Breeze Club. I write his vindication here, after having thoroughly investigated the case.

But his name is in ill-repute in the vicinity of Buckroe Beach, the fact has become known that he is a member of the colored sporting club and it behooves him to have it removed instantly, if not sooner, from the archives of the organization.

How he became a member of the Sea Breezes may be told in a few words. On the Fourth of July a certain well-known young man of this city went down to Buckroe and was there seized with a raging thirst. It was a dark and thirsty that consumed him, the thirst that water doesn't satisfy.

In his distress he sought the counsel of sundry natives who informed him that it was impossible to get a drink anywhere in the neighborhood, unless he cared to brave the society of the Sea Breeze Sporting Club.

Now, he had never before heard of the Sea Breezes Club. The name had rather an attractive sound to his ears, and, not observing the suppressed sneer of his informants, he gratefully accepted their kind offices. One of them brought him out and introduced him to a thick-lipped colored man, whom he found prowling along the beach, as "all right."

The colored man took the thirsty citizen in tow and landed him in the bar of the club house.

The place was a neatly furnished room, equipped with a buffet and a bartender. The guide, after whispering a few words into the ear of the bartender disappeared.

The visitor found nothing to excite his suspicion in the surroundings, none of the members of the club appearing on the scene. He took a seat at a table and ordered a drink.

"You'll have to become a member first, sah," the bartender said, bringing out a book and laying it before him. "Sign your name there, sah."

The visitor glanced at the list of George Washingtons, Thomases, Jeffersons, Smiths and Johnsons that adorned the page, and the horrible truth dawned upon him.

But he had gone too far to retreat. Seizing the proffered pen, he dipped it into the convenient ink bottle and with a flourish signed the name of the Newport News official, who is now bearing the ignominy of it all.

"They's got a quorum up in de c'yard room now," said the bartender. "I'll bring yo' name up and have it voted on right away, sah. Won't take more'n two minutes. Youse got a mighty fine recommendation, sah—a mighty fine recommendation."

The dusky server of drinks ambled up the stairway, and taking advantage of his absence the white man arose and slipped out. The brethren of the Sea Breeze Club were greatly disappointed when they came down to meet the new member. They are confident that there is a good explanation coming to them from him on account of his behavior. They believe that he will return.

And, in the meantime, the membership of the gentleman at the court house holds good.

THE RACONTEUR.

Held in Captivity.

The War Department at Washington has received the report from General Otis that the American prisoners held by the insurgents in the Philippines have been sent to Vigan and Boacorte on the northwest coast of Luzon.

First Assistant Engineer Charles Bradford, of this city, who was formerly employed by the Old Dominion Steamship Company and was captured near Manila while in a small boat with a friend, is understood to be in the party of prisoners held captive by the Filipinos.

General Otis, according to the report, was assured of the safety of all of the prisoners and believes they will eventually be turned over to the American command.

This will be good news to Mr. Bradford's father, sister and other relatives now living in this city.

Dull Business.

Judge Brown had a slim docket in the Police Court yesterday. Only two cases were tried and the defendants were both arrested yesterday. Two police did not make one arrest Thursday and Thursday night.

Now is Your Inning.

A saving of 25 per cent. is what it means to you. We make our best bow and announce

Our Twentieth Semi-Annual Cut-Price Sale.

Don't allow the Idea to run away with you that this is simply an advertisement to catch you: it is beyond question a bona fide cut of our former low prices on the best line of MEN'S AND BOYS' CLOTHING in the city.

\$18 Suits for	=	=	\$14.38
15 Suits for	=	=	11.98
12.50 Suits for	=	=	9.98
10 Suits for	=	=	7.98
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Boys' Two-Piece Suits—Double-Breasted Coats.

\$2.50 Suits for	=	=	\$1.98
3.00 Suits for	=	=	2.23
3.50 Suits for	=	=	2.48
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The One Price Grocer.

Offers big bargains for cash. Articles named below will be sold at prices quoted during the entire week beginning Monday, June 19th, and ending Saturday, June 24th.

Heinz baked beans, 1lb cans, 7c; 2lb cans, 10c; 3lb cans, 15c.	Armour's Washing Powder, 1lb package, 5c.
Good sun-dried apples, 3lbs, 25c.	Fairbank's Gold Dust, 4lb package, 15c.
Pure Maple Syrup, per gal, 75c.	Best L. L. Raisins per pound, 10c.
Best Java Coffee, 25c lb. Regular price, 35c.	Arbuckle's Coffee whole, 10c; ground, 11c.
Six pounds ginger snaps, 25c.	New Dates per pound, 5c.
Hires Root Beer, 15c bottle.	Pax-Riner Butter per pound, 25c.
Hires Condensed Milk, 3 cans, 25c.	New Mince Meat, 4 lbs 25c.
Globe Matches, 2 packages, 15c.	Good Raisins, 4 lbs, 25c.
Carpet Tacks, 10c package, one dozen boxes.	Imperial Butter Crackers, per lb, 10c.
Laurel package tooth picks, 5c.	Fresh Nick-Nacks, 5c lb.
Smoke Gen. Worth Cigars, 6 for 25c.	Large Bottle Ammonia, 5c.
Harter's flour, per bag, 50c; per barrel \$4.50.	Eight Cakes Quaker City Soap, 25c; Butterbilk soap per box, 10c.

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Such qualities at such ridiculously low prices attract crowds under any circumstances. We have cut the knife deep into some of our finest makes, prior to taking inventory.

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\$1.59 135 pr Men's Black Vici Kid, very soft and flexible lace shoes in all styles. Regular value, 2 25	98c 169 pr Ladies' Black and Tan hand turned Oxford Ties in Patent Leather and kid tip in all styles. Regular price, \$1.50
\$1.98 97 pr men's Russia calf tan Oxford ties, English and bull dog toes. Regular price 2 75	\$1.25 214 pr ladies' tan and black 2 button and Oxford ties in silk vesting and kid tops in all toes. Regular value 1 75
\$1.98 112 pr men's tan and black Vici kid lace and congress shoes. Regular value \$3.00	\$3.00 148 men's hand sewed tan and black Vici Kid shoes in all styles; Hathaway sole and Harrington's make. Regular value \$4.00

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